

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF
HINDLEY.



FORTY-THIRD

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

TOGETHER WITH THE

Report of the Sanitary Inspector,

FOR THE YEAR 1943.

HINDLEY :

FRED BRADLEY AND SON LTD.,

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RAINFALL 29

Public Health Department,

Town Hall,

Hindley.

To the Chairman and Members of the Hindley Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health of the District for the year 1943.

The Report is again much abbreviated, in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health, but an endeavour has been made to embrace the most important details, and particularly those which indicate the state of health of the township.

I take this opportunity of tendering my best thanks to the Officials of the Council, the Staff of the Health Department, and especially to the Chief Sanitary Inspector for valuable help and co-operation at all times.

I desire also to express to the Members of the Public Health Committee my appreciation of the courtesy and consideration they have always displayed towards me.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J. CLAY BECKITT,

Medical Officer of Health.

**Medical Officer of Health, Child Welfare Officer, and
School Medical Officer:**

J. CLAY BECKITT, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (Resigned, 24/9/43).

G. H. POTTER, M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

(Appointed, 22/11/43).

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

H. B. BARKER, M.B.B.S., LOND., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,

Consulting Obstetrician:

C. H. WALSH, M.B., CH.B., F.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.

Consulting Pathologist and Bacteriologist:

G. A. CARY LYNCH, M.D., D.P.H.

Dental Surgeon

- - - -

W. CLEGG, L.D.S., R.C.S.

Sanitary Inspectors:

THOS. FRANCE (Chief).

Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute;

Associate Member, Institute of Sanitary Engineers;

Meat Inspector's Certificates:—

Royal Sanitary Institute;

Liverpool University.

J. H. PLATT (Additional).

Certificate, S.I.B.;

Associate Member, Royal Sanitary Institute;

Meat Inspector's Certificate—Liverpool University.

Health Visitors:

Mrs. K. BARTON, Certificate, Liverpool Hospital, and C.M.B.
(Resigned 23rd September, 1943).

Mrs. M. C. HOWGATE, S.R.N., C.M.B., R.S.I.

(Resigned 21st September, 1943)

Miss E. L. SMELTZER, S.R.N., C.M.B. (PART I), R.S.I.
(1st October, 1943).

Isolation Hospital:

Mr. and Mrs. S. MILLAR, Caretakers.

Clerical Staff:

Miss D. M. BUCKMASTER.

R. WILLIAMS (H.M. Forces).

Miss E. RIGBY (Temporary).

SECTION A.

Area in acres—2612.21.

Population (Census, 1931)—21,629.

Registrar-General's estimate of population for birth and death-rates, 1943—18,090.

Number of Inhabited Houses (Census, 1931)—5,140.

End of 1943 (according to Rate Books)—5,520.

Rateable Value—£71,072.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate—£269.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The industrial occupations in Hindley were, for the most part, Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Coal Mining. There is now one Weaving Shed and only one Cotton Mill remains. All Pits have ceased working. There is little unemployment, practically all employable persons having been absorbed into munitions and other allied industries.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1943.

Birth-rate per 1,000 of the resident population—18.9.

		Total.	M.	F.
Live Births—Legitimate	...	330.	185	145
Illegitimate	...	12	9	3
Total		342	194	148
Stillbirths—Legitimate		19	14	5
Illegitimate		Nil.	—	—
Infant deaths under one year:—				
Legitimate		17	9	8
Illegitimate		1	1	—

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:—

	Death-rate per 1,000 total (live and still)	
	Deaths.	Births.
Puerperal and Post-Abortive Sepsis	Nil.	Nil.
Other Maternal Causes	2	5.54

Death-rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All Infants per 1,000 live births—52.

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births—51.

Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births—83.

General Death Statistics.

Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population—14.1.

	Total.	M.	F.
Deaths	256	127	129

Principal causes of mortality:—

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)—36.

Deaths from Heart Disease—46.

Deaths from Bronchitis—25.

Deaths from Pneumonia—15.

Deaths from Cerebral Vascular Lesions—34.

	1942.	1943.
Registered in Hindley Urban District . . .	260	170
Belonging to and registered out of the District	91	89
Less Deaths of non-residents transferred . . .	2	3
Death-rate per 1,000 living	14.1	14.1
Infantile mortality death-rate per 1,000 births	33	52
Percentage death-rate of Infants—Legitimate	3.95	4.8
Percentage death-rate of Infants—Illegitimate	7.69	8.3
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live births...	2.8	5.84
Live and stillbirths...	2.68	5.54

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

1. (a) See page 1 (Staff).
- (ii) (a) Laboratory Facilities:—Pathological and Bacteriological Department, Wigan Infirmary, Manchester University.
- (b) Ambulance Services:—Adequate.
 - (i) For Infectious Cases—Ford Motor Ambulance, provided by the Hindley Urban District Council.
 - (ii) For Non-Infectious and Accident Cases—Austin Motor Ambulance.

Agreement with the Urban District Councils of Abram and Ince-in-Makerfield for joint use of Ambulance by the three Authorities concerned, garaged at Hindley, available at any hour of the night or day, and co-ordinated with adjoining Authorities.
- (c) Nursing in the Home:—Two District Nurses (Queen's) are working in the district. Their services are highly appreciated.
- (d) Treatment Centres and Clinics:—White House, Liverpool Road.

The following Clinics were held:—

Minor Ailments; Pre and Post Natal; Toddlers; Dental; Ophthalmic; Sunlight; Immunisation (Diphtheria).
(Jointly with School Medical Service).

Instituted:—Fortnightly Session Ante-Natal Clinic. Consultant Obstetric Surgeon—Dr. Walsh.

Infant Cases Treated at the Clinic during the Year 1943.

No. of cases treated...	...	...	211.
No. of attendances ...	...	...	459.

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinic during the Year 1943.

During the year 1943, 59 Ante-Natal and 3 Post-Natal cases attended the Clinic and made 93 attendances.

(e) Hospitals:—Public and Voluntary.

Arrangements with Leigh Joint Hospital Board for the reception of all cases of Infectious Disease.

General.

Hospital and other Institutions available for the district:—

General Medical and Surgical:—

Ancoats Infirmary, Manchester; Royal Infirmary, Manchester, and Salford Royal Infirmary; Wigan Royal Albert Edward Infirmary; Bolton Infirmary; Billinge Hospital and Leigh Infirmary.

Children:—Pendlebury Children's Hospital and Ancoats Infirmary.

Venereal Diseases:—Wigan Royal Albert Edward Infirmary.

Tuberculosis:—County Sanatoria and Hospital.

Chronic Sick:—Billinge Hospital.

Mental Diseases:—County Hospital.

Ear, Nose and Throat:—Manchester and Wigan Infirmaries.

Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia:—Arrangements with Leigh Joint Hospital Board.

A sum of £100 is contributed by the Hindley Urban District Council to the Manchester and Salford Charities' Fund. This sum is there apportioned to the various Hospitals in Manchester and Salford.

These facilities are duly appreciated and freely used by the inhabitants of Hindley.

3. Maternity and Child Welfare.

Births notified:—M. 195, F. 148 (Illegitimate 9 M., 3 F.), Still-births 19, Total 362.

						Births.	Still-births.
Attended at birth by Doctor (engaged) and Midwives						50	6
Attended at birth by Midwives and medical help						41	6
Attended at birth by Midwives						148	2
Hospital						104	5
						343	19
Home Visits.	Infants.	1—2.	2—3.	3—4.	4—5.	Over 5.	Total.
1st Visits:							
340.	...	350	371	348	305	336	— 2,050
Attendances at							
Clinic ...	7,348	1027	449	182	127	—	9,133
Consulted M.O.	187	37	29	25	14	—	282
Total Clinic	7,535	1,064	478	207	141	—	9,415
Number of Visits to Homes						1760	
Pre-Natal Consultations						59	
Post-Natal Consultations						90	
Operations						Nil.	

- (i) Midwifery and Maternity Services. Lancashire County Council is the supervising Authority. Three Municipal Midwives have been allocated to Hindley.

- (ii) Institutional provision for mothers or children:—None.
- (iii) Health Visitors:—One whole-time, one part-time.
- (iv) Child Life Protection:—The work is carried out by the Health Visitor under the supervision of the M.O.H.
- (v) Orthopædic Treatment:—Scheme in conjunction with County Council. Three children under school age attended, making six attendances.
- (vi) Dental Treatment:—Twelve sessions per annum are allocated to Maternity and Child Welfare work. 3 Pre-Natal, 3 Post-Natal and 11 Pre-School Children received dental treatment during the year.
- (vii) Ophthalmic Treatment:—Eight children under school age were referred to the Ophthalmic Surgeon.

Refraction Cases	...	...	...	4
Glasses prescribed and obtained	...	...	...	4
Treatment Cases	...	...	...	10

- (viii) Artificial Light Treatment:—8 Pre-School Children received treatment during the year and made 31 attendances.

SECTION C.

1. (i) **Water.**—The water supply is conducted from the Rivington water main of the Liverpool Corporation to a service reservoir at Westhoughton, from which it is distributed throughout the district. The supply is continuous, abundant, and of good quality. Ten houses in the fields are not provided with a separate domestic supply. Periodic chemical and bacteriological reports prove the water potable and free from contamination.
- (ii) **Drainage and Sewerage.**—The complete reorganisation of the Platt Bridge Sewage Works is in progress. Essential adjustments to the complete scheme carried out. No action necessary.

3. (i) **Closet Accommodation.**—There are 4 W.W.C.'s, 16 pail closets and 41 privy middens in the district. No Sewer being available, 78 houses have not separate sanitary accommodation.
- (ii) **Public Cleansing.**—This was carried out—apart from Platt Bridge and Hindley Green, which districts are let by contract—under the supervision of the Surveyor, by the Council's workmen.
- (iii) **Shops.**—Sanitary conditions supervised and improvements progressing.
- (iv) **Smoke Abatement.**—No action.
- (v) **Swimming Baths and Pools.**—None in the district.
- (vi) **Eradication of Bed Bugs.**—Inspections carried out.

(1) (a) Council Houses infested	...	...	...	7
Council Houses disinfested	...	...	...	7
(b) Other Houses found to be infested	...	...	...	14
Other Houses disinfested	...	...	...	14

- (2) Methods employed for freeing infested houses from bed bugs: Houses fumigated with Hydrogen Cyanide, spraying with Zaldecide and by fumigating with Sulphur.
- (3) Methods employed for ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removal to Council Houses:—Complete removal of furniture and belongings carried out by Local Authority in own vans, and fumigated with Hydrogen Cyanide Gas before delivery to new houses.
- (4) Whether the work of disinfestation is carried out by the Local Authority or by a contractor?—Slum Clearance by contractor; other dwellings by Local Authority.
- (5) The measures taken, by way of supervision or education of tenants, to prevent infestation or re-infestation after cleansing: Periodical inspection of houses by Sanitary Inspectors.

4. **Schools.**—The sanitary condition of the Schools in the area is satisfactory and the water supply good and sufficient.

SECTION D.—HOUSING.

(a) Statistics.

Number of houses erected during the year:—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b))	...	...	...	...	—
(i) By the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	—
(ii) By other Local Authorities	...	...	...	...	—
(iii) By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	—

(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts:—

(i) By the Local Authority (included under (a) (i) above)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
(ii) By other bodies or persons (included under (a) (iii) above)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.

(b) Housing Conditions.

Sufficiency of supply of houses:—The shortage is gradually increasing on account of:—

- (a) Evacuees from other areas.
- (b) Establishment of new works.
- (c) Cessation of building operations.

Actions taken during the year regarding Clearance Areas and Improvement Areas:—

No Clearance or Improvement Areas were represented during the year.

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:—

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... 509
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 509
 - (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1925 ... Nil.
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose... ... Nil.
 - (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation Nil.
 - (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 223
2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal Notices:—
- Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority or their Officers 136
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—
- (a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—
 - (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs... ... Nil.
 - (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal Notices:—
 - (a) By owners Nil.
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners... ... Nil.
 - (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—
 - (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 254

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal Notices:—

(a) By owners 44

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... Nil

(c) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... Nil.

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... Nil.

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... Nil.

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... Nil.

4. Housing Act, 1936, Part IV—Overcrowding:—

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ... 278

(2) Number of families dwelling therein ... 355

(3) Number of persons dwelling therein ... 1915

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... 12

(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... 7

(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ... 25

SECTION E.

(a) **Milk Supply.**—Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops were inspected at regular intervals and are generally clean. 13 samples examined for bacteriological content were found to be satisfactory, and 13 unsatisfactory.

(b) **Meat and Other Foods.**—All Slaughterhouses closed under the Government Scheme.

Food Condemned.—(See Sanitary Inspector's Report).

Premises used for the preparation of foods were inspected frequently and were, on the whole, satisfactory.

(c) **Adulteration, Etc.**—Action taken by Local Authority (if they are a Food and Drugs Authority) in respect of:—

(i) Food and Drugs Act, 1938:—Carried out mainly by County Council Officials, in co-operation with Sanitary Officers.

(ii) Other Food Acts or Regulations:—Observations made.

SECTION F.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and Other Diseases.

Eighteen cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year. Anti-Toxin was promptly administered. Eighteen cases sent to Hospital.

Scarlet Fever.—43 notifications were received. 26 patients were sent to Hospital.

One case of Puerperal Pyrexia was notified. This was removed to Astley Sanatorium and a good recovery was made.

Three cases of Cerebro Spinal Fever were notified during the year and two were sent to Hospital.

204 cases of Measles and 71 cases of Whooping Cough were notified during the year.

Scabies.—Facilities have been established for the treatment of Scabies in the Gas Yard, Cross Street, Hindley. 117 persons (22 under 5 years, 43 5-14 years, and 52 adults) attended for treatment.

The therapeutic agent used is a 25 per cent. emulsion of Benzyl Benzoate, which has been found very effective, and we have had very few secondary cases.

Local practitioners have been informed of these facilities for the treatment of Scabies, which are freely available to all residents of the district.

Infestation.—The general standard of cleanliness in the district remains high, and the few cases of Head Lice Infestation have been satisfactorily dealt with at the Clinic.

III.—TUBERCULOSIS.

No action necessary under Public Health Tuberculosis Regulations, 1925, nor under Section 172 of Public Health Act, 1936.

The ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths is 1 in 6.

Notification of tuberculosis is generally satisfactory.

TABLE 1.—Table showing the number of Cases of Infectious Diseases Notified from the whole district at different Age Periods, the Localities in which they occurred, and the Number removed to Hospitals during the year 1943.

Disease.	Cases notified in whole district.														Total.		Total Cases Removed to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
	At all Ages	At Ages—years.													M.	F.		
		Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and up					
Scarlet Fever	43	...	1	4	3	6	24	3	1	1	...	...	...	23	20	26	...	
Diphtheria	18	...	...	...	2	1	8	4	1	...	1	...	...	6	12	18	1	
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Measles	204	12	27	21	42	40	60	2	...	...	...	...	...	95	109	2	...	
Pneumonia	55	3	5	2	3	2	7	3	...	9	7	7	7	23	32	2	25	
Whooping Cough	71	15	7	14	15	6	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	33	38	...	1	
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	
Cerebro Spinal Fever	3	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	2	2	
Erysipelas	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	2	3	...	...	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	
Pemphigus	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	
TOTALS	402	33	41	41	65	55	113	13	2	11	8	12	8	184	218	52	29	

Tuberculosis.

New Cases and Mortality during 1943.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.	Non-Respiratory.			Respiratory.	Non-Respiratory.		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0— ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5— ...	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
15— ...	1	1	—	3	—	1	—	—
25— ...	2	3	—	—	—	1	—	—
35— ...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
45— ...	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	1
55— ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
65— ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Totals ...	6	4	1	7	1	3	—	2
	— 10 —		— 8 —		— 4 —		— 2 —	

TABLE II.

Causes of and ages at Death for the Year 1943.

Causes of Death.				Nett Deaths at the subjoined Ages of Residents whether occurring within or without the District.																	
				Under 1		1 to 2		2 to 5		5 to 15		15 to 25		25 to 45		45 to 65		65 and Up.		All ages	
				M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1—Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
2—Cerebro Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
3—Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
4—Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
5—Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
6—Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
7—Other Forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
8—Syphilitic Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
9—Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
10—Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
11—Acute Polio-myelitis and Polio-Encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
12—Acute Infantile Encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
13—Cancer of Bronchial Cavity and Oesophagus (M.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Uterus (F.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	2	1	3	3	3	3		
14—Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	2	3	5	3	3	3		
15—Cancer of Breast	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	3	11	11		
16—Cancer of all other sites	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	5	3	5	8	2	2	2		
17—Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	1	1	3	15	15	15		
18—Intra-cranium; Vascular Lesions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	6	17	8	19	24	24	24		
19—Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	5	15	17	22	3	3	3		
20—Other Diseases of Circulatory System	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	4	2	8	17	17	17		
21—Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	5	3	11	8	7	7	7		
22—Pneumonia -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	2	2	8	1	1	1		
23—Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	2	...	...	...		
24—Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
25 Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
26—Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
27—Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
28—Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	1	3	6	9	9	9		
29—Puerperal and Post-Abortion Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
30—Other Maternal Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
31—Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	1	1		
32—Congenital; Malformation; Birth Injuries; Infantile Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	2	2		
33—Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
34—Road Traffic Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...		
35—Other Violent Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	...	...	17	12	12	12		
36—All Other Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	4	1	10	9	12	12		
TOTALS	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	8	2	2	1	1	3	2		
												9	13	42	36	61	66	127	129		

Sanitary Inspector's Report for 1943.

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my twenty-eighth Annual Report of the work of the Department for the year 1943. It is prepared in accordance with Circular 2890 and is in abridged form.

The departmental work throughout has proceeded favourably, considering the many difficulties. There is delay in getting repairs executed, occasioned by the shortage of skilled labour and materials. Inspections have continued normally and have concentrated especially on essential repairs.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

THOS. FRANCE,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Overcrowding.

This is on the increase, mainly by incursion of evacuees and by newly-married couples having to reside with parents. Many premises previously unoccupied have been re-conditioned and made reasonably habitable.

Offensive Trades.

KNACKER YARD.—Only the meat is boiled on the premises. This is done in open pans and there is very little offensive odour from this process. All offals are stored and removed twice per week outside the district for treatment. The premises have been re-conditioned. They can now be kept in a clean state and are less susceptible to rodent infestation.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

The number of retail purveyors on the register at the end of the year was 16 farmers, 5 dairymen and 47 retailers of bottled milk (19 pasteurised, 3 tuberculin tested, and 25 sterilized). The cowsheds and dairies of the producers are fairly well kept, and the walls and ceilings limewashed at least twice during the year, i.e., May and November. Improvements were carried out at the following farm:—

CLOSE LANES FARM.

Town's water supply installed.

Samples of milk were submitted for analysis under the Food and Drugs Act. 26 samples of milk were taken for bacteriological examination by your Officers, 13 of which were found to be satisfactory and 13 unsatisfactory. Periodical visits were paid to farms during the process of milking. Talks with the farmers and delivery of circulars on the production of clean milk, in an effort made to get a pure milk supply.

19 Retailers' Licences were issued for sale of Pasteurised Milk.

Three Retailers' Licences were issued for sale of Tuberculin Tested Milk.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Infested buildings and dwellings numbering 21 (7 of which were Council Houses) were fumigated with Zaldecide. The cost of disinfection has, in all cases, been borne by the owners.

Several houses infested with other forms of vermin (cockroaches, fleas, etc.) were treated with insecticides and Sulphur Dioxide.

Provision and Replacement of Ashbins.

Ashbins and ashtubs falling in disrepair, numbering 54, were renewed by covered galvanised ashbins.

Disinfection.

Disinfectants supplied free (liquid and powder), special bottles being provided. A charge of 6d. is made for the first bottle and is exchanged free. During the year 1,565 bottles were supplied to

residents, 662 at the Health Office, 564 at your distributing station at Platt Bridge, and 339 at your Hindley Green station—99 sales and 1,466 re-issues.

For disinfection of houses after infectious disease, a 5 per cent. solution of Formalin is generally used in the form of a spray, although Formic Vap lamps, in a gaseous form, and sulphur candles, are stocked and used in certain cases.

The ten Elementary Schools are sprayed internally with a disinfectant solution during each vacation—Easter, Whitsun, Summer, October and Christmas.

During the year 113 houses were disinfected after infectious disease. 3,530 articles of clothing passed through the steam disinfecter.

Clinic disinfected on five occasions.

During the year 340 articles were disinfected for a neighbouring Authority.

Number of articles destroyed, chiefly straw mattresses—44.

Meat Inspection.

The Livestock (Restriction on Slaughtering) Order, 1940, came into operation on the 15th January, 1940, and provided that no person shall, for human consumption, slaughter or cause to be slaughtered, any livestock as defined in the Order, except with the authority of the Ministry of Food, and therefore all slaughtering in your area was prohibited from that date, excepting pig-keepers slaughtering for their own consumption. Supervision is maintained.

Pigs (killed for home consumption) inspected—16.

Seven Licences to slaughter animals were granted to Slaughtermen under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

The following food was condemned as unfit for human consumption:—

Meat (Imported)	...	...	...	...	62 lbs.
Canned Meat	...	...	...	...	153 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.
Rabbits (fresh)	...	...	...	...	178 lbs.
Bacon	...	...	...	...	127 lbs.
Fish	...	...	...	...	224 lbs.
Eggs	...	...	...	...	1,039
Apples	...	...	...	...	700 lbs.
Canned Fruit	...	...	...	...	157 tins
Canned Milk	...	...	...	...	199 tins
Other Canned Foods	...	...	...	...	83 tins
Cheese	...	...	...	...	27 lbs.
Jam	...	...	...	...	6 lbs.
Other Foodstuffs	...	...	...	...	8 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.

Summary of Inspections and General Sanitary Work.

Nuisances brought forward from 1942	...	435
Nuisances reported to Committee during 1943..	2,089	
Nuisances abated during 1943	...	2,345
Number of letters sent	...	87
Number of Preliminary Notices	...	233
Number of Statutory Notices	...	74
Number of School Notices	...	51
Number of Parents' Notices	...	16
Number of Houses Disinfected	...	113
Number of Articles Disinfected	...	3,530
Number of Premises Inspected...	...	1,073
Factories	...	43
Knackers Yard	...	47
Bakehouses	...	26

Dairies and Cowsheds	42
Picture Halls	10
Number of Visits re Infectious Disease ...	134

Summary of Nuisances Dealt With.

Defective Water Supply and Cistern and W.C. Pedestals	103
Defective and Choked Drains	241
Defective Roofs	260
Defective Gutters, Gullies and Downspouts ...	337
Irregular and Insanitary Yard Surfaces ...	23
Defective Brickwork to Yard and other Walls	104
Smoky Chimneys and Defective Brickwork to Chimney Stacks	71
Absence of Refuse Receptacles	54
Dampness	93
Defective Doors, Door Frames, Windows and Window Frames	204
Insufficient Light and Ventilation	14
Insanitary Slop Sinks and Waste Pipes ...	52
Defective Grates and Washboilers	86
Defective Plasterwork	154
Defective Floors	47
Insanitary Back Passages	26
Verminous Houses	21
Insanitary Condition of Premises	20
Living Vans so placed	64
Insanitary Condition of Factories and Work- shops	8
Insanitary Condition of Cowsheds and Dairies	35
Other Nuisances	72

Factories and Workshops Act.

Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector.

Premises.	Inspec- tions.	Number of Written Notices.
(1)	(2)	(3)
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ...	10	3
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) ...	31	5
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' Premises)	2	—
	—	—
	43	8
	—	—

(2) Defects Found.

Particulars.	Found.	Remedied.
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—		
Want of Cleanliness	6	6
Other Nuisances	2	2
	—	—
TOTAL ...	8	8
	—	—

Bakehouses.

There are 16 bakehouses in the district, wholesale and retail. 26 visits have been made during the past year. In 6 instances it was necessary to call the attention of the occupier to the condition of the premises, particularly with regard to the limewashing of the walls and ceilings, otherwise they are fairly clean and well kept.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

In conjunction with the County Sanitary Officer, Mr. J. Mercer, the following samples were submitted for analysis:—

Milk	...	...	...	...	...	12
Canned Vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	1
Yeast	...	...	...	...	...	1
Egg Substitute	...	...	...	...	...	1
Linseed Meal	...	...	...	...	...	1
Beer	...	...	...	...	...	1
						—
						17
						—

All samples were found to be genuine.

Smoke Observations.—No action necessary.

Prevalence and Control of Infectious Diseases.

All cases of notifiable infectious diseases notified are visited, necessary enquiries are made and advice given as to isolation, etc. Disinfection is carried out after recovery or removal to Hospital.

Red Cross Ambulance Services.

The number of patients removed in 1943 was 983.

Number of cases removed to and from Manchester...	37
Number of cases removed to and from Wigan	... 801
Number of cases removed to and from Leigh	... 83
Other cases	... 62
	983

Total mileage recorded—9,609.1.

I desire to tender my sincere thanks to the Chairman of the Public Health Committee and the Council, the Clerk, Surveyor and other Officials and Members of the Staff, for their co-operation and assistance.

THOS. FRANCE,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Engineer and Surveyor's Office,
Town Hall,
Hindley,

17th January, 1944.

Particulars of Rainfall, etc., recorded at Platt Bridge Sewage Works
during the year ending 31st December, 1943.

Height of Rain Gauge—98.64 feet above sea level.

Height of Barometer—104.00 feet above sea level.

Area of Hindley—2,612.182 statute acres.

Month.	Mean Monthly Temp.	Mean Monthly Pressure.	No. of days on which rain fell.	Max. fall in 24 hrs. in inches.	Total Monthly Rainfall.
January ...	40.3	29.21	23	9th .62	4.79
February ...	42.5	29.97	15	2nd .53	2.58
March ...	41.4	30.07	7	25th .40	1.06
April ...	47.6	29.84	12	9th .26	1.94
May ...	52.01	29.89	10	9th .76	3.03
June ...	58.4	29.86	10	18th .71	2.50
July ...	61.0	29.87	9	10th .50	2.15
August ...	60.01	29.73	17	26th 1.02	4.99
September ...	56.5	29.79	19	12th .95	5.30
October ...	49.4	29.65	18	31st .71	3.85
November ...	43.4	29.74	13	29th .50	3.32
December ...	39.1	29.45	15	21st .53	2.45
Totals for the year 1943	...	...	168		37.96

Total weight of rain which fell in Hindley during the year 1943:—
10,011,874 tons.

Rainfall in Inches:—

1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
28.36	32.02	39.55	39.25	30.96	43.79	41.23	37.82	33.51	34.78	37.96

Thermometer Readings.

Barometer Readings.

Highest for the year	...	73°F.	Highest for the year...	30.45
Lowest for the year	...	26°F.	Lowest for the year...	28.52

OSWALD P. ABBOTT,

Engineer and Surveyor,
Town Hall,
Hindley,

